



Minnesota Ag News - Labor



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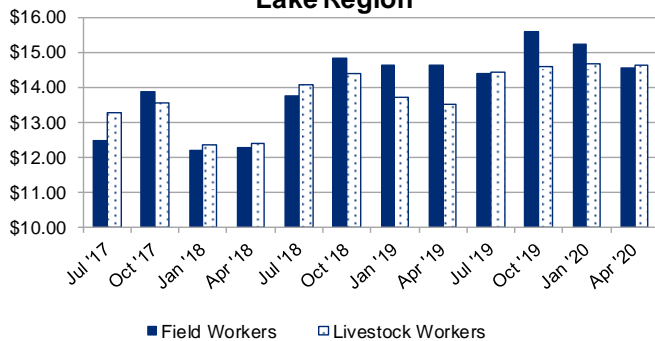
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Media Contact: Dan Lofthus

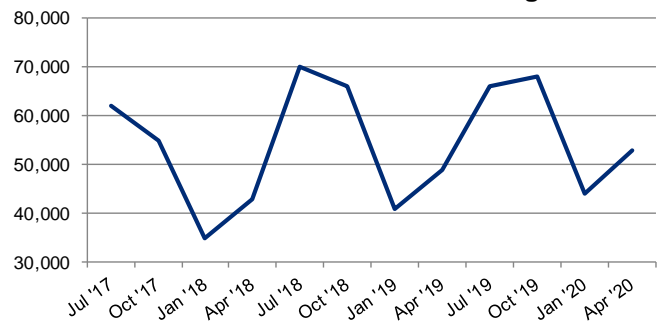
There were 44,000 workers hired directly by farms in the Lake Region (Michigan, Minnesota, and Wisconsin) during the reference week of January 12-18, 2020, according to the latest USDA, National Agricultural Statistics Service – *Farm Labor* report. Farm operators paid their hired workers an average wage rate of \$15.55 per hour, up \$0.90 from January 2019. The number of hours worked averaged 41.0 for hired workers during the reference week, compared with 38.4 hours in January 2019.

During the reference week of April 12-18, 2020, there were 53,000 workers hired directly by farms in the Lake Region (Michigan, Minnesota, and Wisconsin). Farm operators paid their hired workers an average wage rate of \$15.26 per hour during the April 2020 reference week, up \$0.79 from April 2019. The number of hours worked averaged 41.6 for hired workers during the reference week, up from 39.8 hours in April 2019.

**Wage Rates by Type of Worker
Lake Region**



Number of Workers - Lake Region



Hired Workers, Hours Worked and Wage Rates – Lake Region and United States: 2019-2020

[Lake Region includes Michigan, Minnesota, and Wisconsin]

	Lake Region			United States		
	April 2019	January 2020	April 2020	April 2019	January 2020	April 2020
Hired workers on farms1,000 workers	49	44	53	629	568	688
Hours worked by hired workershours per week	39.8	41.0	41.6	40.7	40.2	40.3
Wage rate ¹						
Field and livestock combined dollars per hour	13.90	14.80	14.60	13.73	14.20	14.16
Field dollars per hour	14.61	15.22	14.56	13.80	14.18	14.19
Livestock dollars per hour	13.51	14.65	14.62	13.61	14.22	14.10
All hired workers dollars per hour	14.47	15.55	15.26	14.71	15.28	15.07

¹ Benefits, such as housing and meals, are provided to some workers but the values are not included in the wage rates.

UNITED STATES LABOR

There were 688,000 workers hired directly by farm operators on the Nation's farms and ranches during the week of April 12-18, 2020, up 9% from the April 2019 reference week. Workers hired directly by farm operators numbered 568,000 during the week of January 12-18, 2020, up 14% from the January 2019 reference week.

Farm operators paid their hired workers an average wage of \$15.07 per hour during the April 2020 reference week, up 2% from the April 2019 reference week. Field workers received an average of \$14.19 per hour, up 3%. Livestock workers earned \$14.10 per hour, up 4%. The field and livestock worker combined wage rate, at \$14.16 per hour, was up 3% from the 2019 reference week. Hired laborers worked an average of 40.3 hours during the April 2020 reference week, down 1% from the hours worked during the April 2019 reference week.

Farm operators paid their hired workers an average wage of \$15.28 per hour during the January 2020 reference week, up 2% from the January 2019 reference week. Field workers received an average of \$14.18 per hour, up 3%, while livestock workers earned \$14.22 per hour, up 3% from a year earlier. The field and livestock worker combined wage rate, at \$14.20 per hour, was up 3% from the January 2019 reference week. Hired laborers worked an average of 40.2 hours during the January 2020 reference week, up 2% from the hours worked during the January 2019 reference week.